Mavor, James

Aug. 1917 - June 1918

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Woods Hole
Mass. U.S.A.
13th August 1917.

My dear Sir Robert

I have just seen Dr Jacques Loeb whom you may remember as a visitor to the University in I think October last. He is at the Rockefeller Institute in New York. For several years he was at the University of California. While there he had as one of his assistants J. Brailsford Robertson who is now Professor Biological Chemistry at the same University. Dr Loeb recommends him most strongly for our chair in that subject. Prof Brailsford Robertson is an Englishman from Australia (University of Adelaide) He is now 31 years of age. His salary at Berkeley is $4000. Dr Loeb speaks of him in the very highest terms. He says that he is "without doubt the most brilliant man of science in any department in America" "that is a genius of unusual versatility." Dr Loeb spoke of him to

Mayer, James

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Macallum who said that he did not intend to interfere in the appointment of his successor. The imputation of "interference" can hardly I think apply to my passing on to you Dr Noel's recommendation. I should say that Dr Noel mentioned that Rutherford had the highest opinion of Robertson. Might I suggest that further inquiry be made of scientific men qualified to judge. I should think that Flexner would be a suitable person to ask for an opinion. We received a great shock last night on hearing of the death the previous day of our friend Sir Mortimer Clark who had been staying near Portland and whom we had intended to visit this week.

The sea air has been very beneficial and although my headaches still remain rather obstinate, I am much better. On Wednesday to go north to St Andrews where we are to spend two or three weeks with Lady van Horne at Covenhoven

With kind regards to Lady Falconer in which Mrs Mavor joins.

Believe me Yours very sincerely
James Mavor

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"Maplewood"
Huntsville, Ont.
Aug. 17 1916
[1917]

My dear professor Mavor,

I was very glad to get your letter this morning; especially to hear that that change to the sea-coast has been of advantage to you. I hope that St. Andrews will continue the restoration to your usual vigour.

I am glad to have Dr Jacques Loeb's opinion of Brailsford Robertson, as his name had been suggested more than once to me, but I had the impression that he would not come to us; also Dr Macallum has never urged him very strongly for the position, though I think that he would not wish to put anything in his way if he were willing to come. I will go into the matter when I return to Toronto. I have a committee of advisers on this chair and will gladly tell them Dr Loeb's opinion.

Did your hear that Dr Ellis had another bad haemorrhage about a fortnight ago while up at a lake near here? We went over and spent part of a day with Mrs Ellis. They took him to Toronto, and I am glad to say that my last reports are that he is doing well.

Sir Mortimer Clark's death was a great surprise to us also; but at his age his powers of resistance were reduced. He filled a long life well. few men had more respect as having acted honourably throughout so many years.

In ten days I am going down to Nova Scotia to spend a few days with my brother and to see old friends, and I expect to return to Toronto permanently about Sept. 7th.

Please give my kindest regards to Mr Mavor in which My wife joins, and pardon my type-writing.

Yours very sincerely,

University of Toronto
TORONTO, CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL ECONOMY

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6th Nov 1917.

Dear Sir Robert.

It has just been reported to me that Hollis Edward Beckett. No. 4th Yr in Arts - General course has contracted pneumonia while waiting for examination at the Armouries. It seems to me that this circumstance should be brought to the notice of the Military authorities.

Yours faithfully
James Mavor.

H.R.
re
Hon. W. Mackenzie
Pacific Coast Representative
Canadian Aeroplanes Ltd
Vancouver Hotel. Vancouver.

March 22nd, 1918

My dear Professor Mavor:

I have seen Mr. Langton with regard to his intention in asking you to remove the remainder of the books. I am confident from the way he has spoken that he had not the slightest intention of doing anything that was discourteous. He tells me that this is the situation. After the last committee meeting of the Library he was under the impression that you were going to ask the Superintendent to have some shelving put up in the room for the accommodation of the books, but he says that he was rather surprised to find that you were gradually taking the books away so that very few were left, and he was under the impression that it was chiefly a matter of a few days until these would be taken also. Meanwhile owing to the women's reading room having been handed over for the Red Cross work the general undergraduates' reading room had become overcrowded owing to the approach of the examinations, and he promised to get the women temporary accommodation in the professors' reading room. He found that he needed the tables on which the remainder of your pamphlets were lying, and all that he meant was to ask you to remove these to give him space as soon as possible in view of the fact that you were taking them away in any case. However, he says that he had not the slightest desire to have them taken out of the room, and if you are willing to have them placed in a corner on the floor where they would suffer no injury he would be very glad to have them there as long as you wish.

I hope that this explanation will be satisfactory, as I feel sure he had no discourteous intention.

Yours sincerely,

President.

Professor James Mavor,

University of Toronto.

University of Toronto
TORONTO, CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL ECONOMY

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Private. 7 June 1918

My dear Sir Robert,

I send you herewith a copy of the letter I have written to Mr Hanna. He is the proper person by whom an authoritative statement on the subject could be made. No one will doubt his good faith in any statement he may commit himself to make. I am sorry that Dr Jackman adopted the position and unintended view of the action of the Minister of Finance. I have known all along the inner history of this matter and nothing could be wider of the mark than the suggestion that Sir Thomas White was otherwise than hostile to Mackenzie & Mann and to their creditors from the beginning. I should not like to take the position that I must supervise the writings of members of the staff of my department before publication; but I feel strongly that the editorial committee of the University Monthly should not have hesitated to controversial an article without referring it to some competent person for an opinion. Only experience in editorial responsibility can give

explain such neglect. When I hear from Mr Hanna, I shall have further consultation with you on the subject.

Yours faithfully

James Weaver

Copy.

Private and Confidential.

7 June 1918.

Dear Mr Hanna

I send herewith a copy of the University Monthly for March in which there is an article by one of the assistant-professors in my department, Dr Jackman. I should feel greatly indebted if you would be good enough to look over this article and indicate to me any errors in statement of fact or any inferences from published gossip or otherwise which may seem to you to be unwarranted, if any such errors or inferences are found in the article. Dr Jackman is undoubtedly well informed on railway questions in the United States, and he has written by far the best book on the history of the English railways. He speaks therefore with a certain amount of authority about matters arising from his position in the University. I should explain that I did not see the article before it was published, nor was there any reason why I should do so, indeed I did not examine it until my attention was drawn to it. I shall be glad to give effect so far as lies in my power,

to any correction, you may have it executed to suggest.

Yours hastily

James Mauer.

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June 25th, 1918

Professor James Mavor,

University of Toronto.

Dear Professor Mavor;

There is one more Fellowship that has not been assigned, but the Executive Committee of the Graduate Board were of opinion that it would be advisable not to fill it at present. As you know the policy is to try to secure men from the West. Perhaps in the beginning of October, if we have not applications from the West, we might be able to do something for Mr. Cowan, though I should not like to say that definitely.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.